

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 PER-01 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 /046 W

----- 127610

O R 211125Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 986

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

AMCONSUL UDORN

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USIA FOR IEA

UDORN PASS USIS KHON KAEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, SOPN

SUBJ: PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING RECALL OF AMBASSADOR KINTNER

1. EMBASSY MAKING FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE AT 1800 BANGKOK TIME
FEB. 21: (BEGIN TEXT)

2. THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ANNOUNCES THAT AMBASSADOR WILLIAM R.
KINTNER HAS BEEN RECALLED TO WASHINGTON TO HEAD A HIGH-LEVEL
STUDY FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON U.S. POLICY INTERESTS
IN THE PACIFIC AREA. AMBASSADOR KINTNER INFORMED THE MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE ROYAL KINGDOM OF THAILAND ON FRIDAY
AFTERNOON OF THIS ASSIGNMENT AND OF HIS DEPARTURE FROM THIS
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POST AROUND THE 15TH OF MARCH. AMBASSADOR KINTNER HAS ISSUED

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

3. QTE I REGRET VERY MUCH MY DEPARTURE FROM THAILAND AFTER 16 MONTHS OF SERVICE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. I AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY KINDNESSES AND COURTESIES EXTENDED TO ME BY THE OFFICIALS OF THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT. BOTH MY WIFE, XANDREE, AND I HAVE BEEN DELIGHTED WITH THE UNFAILING CHARM AND GRACIOUSNESS OF THE MANY THAI PEOPLE WE HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO MEET.

4. QTE IT HAS BEEN MY FORTUNE TO HAVE BEEN HERE DURING A PERIOD OF POLITICAL TRANSITION. WITH THE SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL ELECTIONS THAT RESULTED IN THE SELECTION OF M.R. SENI PRAMOT AS PRIME MINISTER, A NEW ERA OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WILL BEGIN FOR THAILAND. I EXTEND MY BEST WISHES TO THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND FOR SUCCESS IN WALKING ALONG THIS NEW ROAD. SINCE MY ARRIVAL HERE I HAVE VISITED MORE THAN 35 PROVINCES FROM THE NORTH TO THE DEEP SOUTH, MUCH OF THE NORTHEAST AND EVEN TRAT PROVINCE IN THE FAR SOUTHEAST. THAILAND IS A COUNTRY OF MANY AND VARIED BEUTIES. IT HAS THE RESOURCES TO PROVIDE A BOUNTIFUL LIFE FOR ALL OF ITS PEOPLE.

5. QTE SURPASSING EVEN ITS NATURAL BEAUTY AND RICHNESS, THE THAI PEOPLE ARE THE NATION'S GREATEST ASSET. I WILL ALWAYS TREASURE MY RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL SECTORS OF SOCIETY WHICH I HAVE ESTABLISHED HERE. MY RESIDENCE HAS BEEN HONORED BY THE PRESENCE OF HIGH ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT LEADERS, BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, BUSINESSMEN, LABOR LEADERS, PROFESSORS, STUDENTS, JOURNALISTS, ARTISTS -- IN FACT, PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. KNOWING THE GENIUS OF THE THAI PEOPLE, THE STRENGTH OF THAILAND'S RELIGIOUS TRADITION, CULTURE AND UNSTITUTIONS, I AM CONFIDENT OF THE COUNTRY'S FUTURE.

6. QTE I WILL ALWAYS REGARD THAILAND AS MY SECOND HOME. I VALUE THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES AS WE BOTH SEEK TO MAKE THE WORLD A SAFER AND BETTER PLACE. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT IN MY NEW DUTIES I SHALL CONTINUE MY ENDEAVORS TO SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE COOPERATION AND LASTING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. I AM CERTAIN THAT MY SUCCESSOR HERE WILL ALSO DEDICATE HIMSELF TO THIS SAME GOAL UNQTE. (END TEXT)
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7. IN ANTICIPATION PRESS QUERIES, WE INTEND USE SUBSTANCE OF FOLLOWING: WE WOULD EXPECT AMBASSADOR KINTNER'S SUCCESSOR TO BE SELECTED SOON, BUT THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE IN WASHINGTON. THE AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE REFLECTS NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY TOWARD THAILAND, HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE FUTURE OF U.S. FORCES IN THAILAND, AND IS NOT CONNECTED TO ANY USG VIEW OF CURRENT THAI POLITICAL EVENTS. THE STUDY GROUP LED

BY AMBASSADOR KINTNER WILL ORGANIZE AND UNDERTAKE A HIGH-LEVEL
STUDY FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ON U.S. POLICY INTERESTS IN
THE PACIFIC AREA, AND DETAILS ABOUT THAT STUDY WILL BE MADE
AVAILABLE LATER.
KINTNER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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